



Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Higher Learning Commission to revise its current guidelines on faculty qualifications so that Hoosier high school students can continue to benefit from Indiana's strong, high quality dual credit offerings.

McNamara

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

20161427

2016

HC 1005/DI 84



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Higher Learning Commission to revise its current guidelines on faculty qualifications so that Hoosier high school students can continue to benefit from Indiana's strong, high quality dual credit offerings.

Whereas, Indiana is committed to offering high quality dual credit courses to high school students throughout the state;

Whereas, Over 66,000 students enrolled in dual credit courses during the 2013-2014 school year, and the number of students is estimated to increase each year;

Whereas, The Higher Learning Commission is an independent corporation and one of six regional institutional accreditors authorized by the United States Department of Education to accredit Indiana postsecondary institutions;

Whereas, The Higher Learning Commission's own 2013 study of dual credit ranked Indiana second in the nation for state policies in place to assure quality;

Whereas, State level data demonstrate that Indiana dual credit students are more likely to go to college, have higher college GPAs, persist in college, and not need remediation than those who do not take dual credit courses;

Whereas, The Higher Learning Commission issued guidelines on October 1, 2015, that did not receive adequate public comment;



Whereas, These guidelines restrict the ability of Indiana colleges and universities to exercise judgment about the academic background a faculty member must have in order to teach;

Whereas, The aforementioned guidelines do not recognize the value of a documented record of excellence in teaching as a means for determining qualified faculty;

Whereas, The Higher Learning Commission has emphasized inputs rather than using data and student outcome metrics as criteria for qualifying faculty; and

Whereas, Indiana, being conscious of the need to provide quality education for its students, asserts that Indiana colleges and universities are in the best position to select faculty to teach courses, including dual credit courses: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Higher Learning Commission is urged to
- 2 revise its current guidelines on faculty qualifications to allow Indiana
- 3 colleges and universities appropriate flexibility and judgment in
- 4 selecting faculty, including dual credit faculty, while at the same time
- 5 assuring quality.
- 6 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
- 7 Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to all members
- 8 of the Indiana congressional delegation, the United States Department
- 9 of Education, and the Higher Learning Commission.

